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JS 44 .(Rev. 4/97)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

2007 Apr-30 PM 04:48 U.S. DISTRICT COURT N.D. OF ALABAMA

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE TWO)

use of the Clerk of Court for th	ne purpose of initiating th	e civil docket she	eet. (SEE II	NSTRUCTIONS ON	PAGE	TWO)		
I.(a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS				
MICHAEL COOPER, by and				RICHARD LEE MATTINGLY,				
Through his wife and next friend,				AT&T CORP., et al.				
ELOUISE COOPER					_ ,,			
(b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE		INTIEE	#	COUNTY OF BERIT	NENCE C	DE EIDST LISTED DEEGNO.	ANT	
	IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASE			COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED DEFENDANT (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)				
				NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE				
				TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.				
(C) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAM	F ADDRESS AND TELEP	HONE NUMBERY		ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)				
Gregory Harrelson LEGAL ADVISORS, L.L.P				Aubrey J. Holloway, GAINES, WOLTER & KINNEY, P.C.				
1901 6th Avenue North, Suite 3120				3500 Blue Lake Drive, Suite 425 Birmingham, Alabama 35243				
Birmingham, Alabama 3				<u> </u>				
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (PLACE AN "- "IN	ONE BOX ONLY)	PLAINTIFF	ZENSHIP OF PR	RINCIF	PAL PARTIES (PLACE	AN "- " IN ONE BOX FOR	
☐1 U.S. Government	3 Federal Ques	tion		(For diversity cases only) AND ONE BOX FOR DEFENDANT)				
Plaintiff	(U.S. Governme	ent Not a Party)	PTF Citizen of This State		PTF DEF		PTF DEF	
	☑ 4 Diversity				□1	☐ 1 Incorporated or Principal Place ☐ 4 ☐ of Business In This State ☐ 2 Incorporated and Principal Place ☐ 5 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐		
	(Indicate Ci	·			□ 2			
	Parties in	Item III)	Citize	en or Subject of a	□3	of Business In ☐ 3 Foreign Nation	Another State ☐ 6 ☐ 6	
				eign Country		Torcigir Nation		
IV. ORIGIN	(PLA	CE AN "• " IN	ONE BOX	ONLY)				
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Proceeding	State Court	Appellate Court	Reop		nother d	istrict Litigation	District Judge from	
					(spe	ecify)	Magistrate Judgment	
V. NATURE OF SUIT	(PLACE AN " " IN OI	NE BOX ONLY)					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
CONTRACT	TO	ORTS		FORFEITURE/PEN	IALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES	
				TORTETTORETER		BANKKO 101	OTHER STATUTES	
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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA MIDDLE DIVISION

MICHAEL COOPER, by and)
Through his wife and next friend,)
ELOUISE COOPER,)
)
Plaintiff,)
) Civil Action No.:
vs.)
)
RICHARD LEE MATTINGLY,)
AT&T CORP., et al.)
)
Defendants.)

NOTICE FILING NOTICE OF REMOVAL

TO: Brandon L. Blankenship, Esq. Gregory Harrelson, Esq. LEGAL ADVISORS, L.L.P 3120 Amsouth Harbert Building 1901 6th Avenue North Birmingham, Alabama 35203

> Annette Manning Hall, Clerk CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. CLAIR COUNTY 1815 Cogswell Avenue Pell City, Alabama 35125

In compliance with 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), you are hereby notified of the filing of a Notice of Removal of the above styled action in the United States District Court for the Northern District, Middle Division. A copy of the Notice of Removal filed with respect to this action is attached hereto.

Dated this the 11h day of 4h, 2007.

Aubrey J. Hølloway (HOL050 Attorney for Defendants Richard Lee Mattingly and AT&T Corp.

OF COUNSEL:

GAINES, WOLTER & KINNEY, P.C. 3500 Blue Lake Drive, Suite 425 Birmingham, Alabama 35243 (205) 980-5888

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing has been served upon counsel for all parties by placing a copy of same in the United States Mail, properly addressed and postage prepaid, this the _______ day of ________, 2007, to:

Brandon L. Blankenship, Esq. Gregory Harrelson, Esq. LEGAL ADVISORS, L.L.P 3120 Amsouth Harbert Building 1901 6th Avenue North Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Albany Allanery

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA MIDDLE DIVISION

MICHAEL COOPER, by and)
Through his wife and next friend,)
ELOUISE COOPER,)
)
Plaintiff,)
) Civil Action No.:
VS.) JURY TRIAL IS REQUESTED
RICHARD LEE MATTINGLY,)
AT&T CORP., et al.)
)
Defendants.)

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

COME NOW Richard Lee Mattingly and AT&T Corp., named as Defendants in the above styled case¹, and file this Notice of Removal of this case from the Circuit Court of St. Clair County, Alabama, to the United States District Court for the Northern District, Middle Division. This Notice of Removal is filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441, and 1446. In support of said removal, Defendants show unto the Court as follows:

BRIEF STATEMENT OF FACTS

1. On April 3, 2007, an action was commenced against Defendants in the Circuit Court of St. Clair County, Alabama, entitled, Michael Cooper, by an

¹ By filing this Notice, Defendants, Richard Lee Mattingly and AT&T, do not concede that this Court or any court in the State of Alabama has personal jurisdiction over them, nor to they accept or agree that venue of this action is proper in the Circuit Court of St. Clair County, Alabama.

through his wife and Next Friend, Elouise Cooper v. Richard L. Mottingly and AT&T Corp, et al, bearing Civil Action Number CV-2007-900020 (A copy of the Complaint is attached hereto as "Exhibit A"). The Plaintiffs perfected service of the Complaint by certified mail upon Richard Lee Mattingly (hereinafter "Mattingly") on April 3, 2007, and upon AT&T Corp. (hereinafter "AT&T") on April 12, 2007. Less than thirty (30) days have expired since service upon Defendants and Defendants have filed no pleadings or motions, nor made any appearances in the State Court. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b), this Notice is filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Middle Division, within the time allowed by law for removal of civil actions to the United States District Court for the purpose of removing this action under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a).

- 2. The Complaint names Richard Lee Mattingly and AT&T as party defendants, and sets forth claims for negligence and/or wantonness related to an automobile accident in St. Clair County, Alabama. The Plaintiffs seek damages for personal injuries and permanent injuries allegedly sustained by Michael Cooper as a result of the incident made the basis of the Complaint. (Exhibit A).
- 3. Upon information and belief, Plaintiffs are now, and were at all times of the filing of the Complaint and at all intervening times, adult resident citizens of St. Clair County, State of Alabama.

- 4. Upon information and belief, Defendant, Mattingly, is an adult resident citizen of the State of Maryland.
- 5. Upon information and belief, Defendant, AT&T, is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, with its principal place of business located in San Antonio, Texas. Defendant, AT&T, was the employer of the driver, Mattingly, at the time of the incident made the basis of this action.
 - 6. All defendants join in this Petition for Removal.

ARGUMENT

- 7. No defendant is a citizen of Alabama. Therefore, complete diversity exists and, this Court has diversity jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332.
 - 8. The amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.
- 9. Richard Lee Mattingly and AT&T have provided a copy of this Notice of Removal to all adverse parties and to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of St. Clair county, Alabama, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Defendants, Mattingly and AT&T respectfully request this Honorable Court to take jurisdiction of this case and issue all necessary orders and process in order to remove the case from the

Circuit Court of St. Clair County, Alabama to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Middle Division.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aubrey J. Holloway (HOL) 50)
Ralph D. Gaines, III (GAI006)
Attorneys for Defendants
Richard Lee Mattingly and
AT&T Corp.

OF COUNSEL:

GAINES, WOLTER & KINNEY, P.C. 3500 Blue Lake Drive, Suite 425 Birmingham, Alabama 35243 (205) 980-5888

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Brandon L. Blankenship, Esq. Gregory Harrelson, Esq. LEGAL ADVISORS, L.L.P 3120 Amsouth Harbert Building 1901 6th Avenue North Birmingham, Alabama 35203

T COUNSEL

Exhibit A



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. CLAIR COUNTY, ALABAMA

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER CO 2007 - 90020

MICHAEL COOPER, by and through his wife and next friend, ELOUISE COOPER,)	
Plaintiff,)	APR 132007
vs.)	

RICHARD LEE MOTTINGLY and AT&T CORP., there may be other entities whose true names and identities are unknown to the Plaintiff(s) at this time, who may be legally responsible for the claim(s) set forth herein who may be added by amendment by the Plaintiff(s) when their true names and identities are accurately ascertained by further discovery. Until that time, the Plaintiff(s) will designate these parties in accordance with ARCP 9(h). The word "entity" as used herein is intended to refer to and include any and all legal entities including individual persons, any and all forms of partnership, any and all types of corporations and unincorporated associations. The symbol by which these parties Defendant are designated is intended to include more than one entity in the event that discovery reveals that the descriptive characterization of the symbol applies to more than one "entity". In the present action, the parties Defendant which the Plaintiff must include by descriptive characterization are as follows: Defendants A, B and C, that person who was operating the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the automobile occupied by Michael Cooper; Defendants D, E and F, that entity on whose behalf the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the vehicle occupied by Michael Cooper was being operated; Defendants G, H and I, that entity who was the employer of the driver of the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the automobile occupied by Michael Cooper; Defendants J, K and L, that entity which owned the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the vehicle occupied by Michael Cooper; Defendants M, N and O, that entity who controlled the operation of the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the vehicle occupied by Michael Cooper; Defendants P, Q and R, that entity which intrusted the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the vehicle occupied by Michael Cooper to the driver of said vehicle; Defendants S, T and U, that entity which maintained the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the vehicle occupied by Michael Cooper; Defendants V, W and X, that entity which either sold, gave, or otherwise provided intoxicating beverages to the operator of the vehicle which collided with the vehicle occupied by Michael Cooper, all of whose names are otherwise unknown but will be added by amendment when ascertained,

Defendants.

COMPLAINT

- 1. The Plaintiff, Michael Cooper, is over the age of nineteen (19) years and a resident citizen of the State of Alabama and is incapacitated and incompetent as a result of the injuries he sustained in the accident made the basis of this suit. The Plaintiff, Michael Cooper, sues by and through his wife and next friend, Elouise Cooper.
- 2. The Defendant, Richard Lee Mottingly, is over the age of nineteen (19) years and a resident citizen of the State of Maryland.
- 3. The Defendant, AT&T Corp., (hereinafter called "AT&T"), is a firm, partnership or corporation doing business in the State of Alabama.
- 4. Defendants A, B and C, is that person who was operating the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the automobile occupied by Michael Cooper.
- 5. Defendants D, E and F, is that entity on whose behalf the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the vehicle occupied by Michael Cooper was being operated.
- 6. Defendants G, H and I, is that entity who was the employer of the driver of the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the automobile occupied by Michael Cooper.
- 7. Defendants J, K and L, is that entity which owned the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the vehicle occupied by Michael Cooper.
 - 8. Defendants M, N and O, is that entity who controlled the operation of the vehicle

which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the vehicle occupied by Michael Cooper.

- 9. Defendants P, Q and R, is that entity which intrusted the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the vehicle occupied by Michael Cooper to the driver of said vehicle.
- 10. Defendants S, T and U, is that entity which maintained the vehicle which permitted, caused or allowed a vehicle to collide with the vehicle occupied by Michael Cooper.
- 11. Defendants V, W and X, is that entity which either sold, gave, or otherwise provided intoxicating beverages to the operator of the vehicle which collided with the vehicle occupied by Michael Cooper.

COUNT I

(Negligence/Wantonness)

- 12. Plaintiff avers that on or about the 30th day of March, 2007, upon a public highway, to-wit: U. S. Highway 231 and County Road 22/Post Chappel Road, in St. Clair County, Alabama, the Defendant, Richard Lee Mottingly, negligently or wantonly permitted, allowed, or caused a motor vehicle to collide with the automobile occupied by Michael Cooper.
- 13. Plaintiff avers that at all times pertinent to this Complaint the Defendant, Richard Lee Mottingly, was acting as an agent, servant or employee of the Defendant, AT&T.
- 14. Plaintiff avers that at all times pertinent to this Complaint the Defendant, Richard Lee Mottingly, was acting within the line and scope of his duties as an agent, servant or employee of the Defendant, AT&T.
 - 15. As a direct or proximate consequence of the negligence or wantonness of the

Defendants, the Plaintiff, Michael Cooper, was caused to suffer the following injuries and damages:

- (a) he was caused to suffer physical pain and mental anguish;
- (b) he was caused to seek medical treatment and was prevented from going about his normal activities;
- (c) he was permanently injured;
- (d) he was caused to suffer lost wages;
- (e) he was caused to incur medical expenses to treat and cure his injuries;
- (f) his automobile was rendered less valuable; and
- (g) he was caused to be injured and damaged, all to his detriment.
- 16. The Plaintiff avers that the negligent or wanton conduct of each of the Defendants, both named and fictitious, combined and concurred to proximately cause the Plaintiff's injuries as herein above alleged.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff hereby demands of the Defendants, jointly and severally, compensatory and punitive damages in an amount in excess of the jurisdictional requirements of this Court, said amount to be determined by a struck jury, plus costs.

COUNT II

(Negligent/Wanton Hiring, Training, and Supervision)

- 17. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 16 as if fully set forth herein.
- 18. Defendant, Richard Lee Mottingly, was working as an employee of AT&T at all times relevant to this Complaint.
 - 19. Defendant, AT&T, hired Defendant, Richard Lee Mottingly, as an employee with

actual knowledge that Defendant, Richard Lee Mottingly, would be responsible for operating a motor vehicle on Alabama's roadways within the line and scope of his employment.

- 20. Defendant, AT&T, knew at the time it hired Defendant, Richard Lee Mottingly, as an employee that ordinary care required that Defendant, AT&T, train and instruct its employees to observe and obey the traffic laws of the State of Alabama.
- Upon information and belief, Defendant, AT&T, negligently or wantonly hired, trained, and supervised Defendant, Richard Lee Mottingly, in that it failed to ascertain whether Defendant, Richard Lee Mottingly, was a safe and skillful driver, failed to adequately train Defendant, Richard Lee Mottingly, in the safe operation of a motor vehicle and failed to properly supervise in his operation of a motor vehicle.
- 22. As a direct and proximate result of the negligent and wanton conduct of Defendant, AT&T, Plaintiff was caused to suffer the injuries and damages set out in <u>COUNT I</u> of this Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff hereby demands of the Defendants, jointly and severally, compensatory and punitive damages in an amount in excess of the jurisdictional requirements of this Court, said amount to be determined by a struck jury, plus costs.

FARRIS, RILEY & PITT, L.L.P. Attorney for Plaintiff

Kirby D/Farris

Suite 400, Massey Building 2025 3rd Avenue North Birmingham, Alabama 35203

(205) 324-1212

Serve Defendant:

Richard Lee Mottingly 212 North 11th Street Oakland, Maryland 21550

(Certified Mail)

AT&T Corp. c/o The Corporation Company 2000 Interstate Park Drive, Suite 204 Montgomery, Alabama 36109